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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

ON THE

LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF

WILLIAM T. PRICE.

FEBRUARY 9, 1887.

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

ON THE

LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF

WILLIAM T. PRICE

(A REPRESENTATIVE FROM WISCONSIN),

DELIVERED IN THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IN THE SENATE,

FORTY NINTH CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1887.

JOINT RESOLUTION providing for printing eulogies delivered in Congress upon the late Abraham Dowdney, John Arnot, jr., Lewis Beach, William T. Price, William H. Cole, and Austin F. Pike

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there be printed, of the eulogies delivered in Congress upon the late Abraham Dowdney, John Arnot, jr., and Lewis Beach, late Representatives in the Forty-ninth Congress from the State of New York, and William T. Price, late a Representative from the State of Wisconsin, and William H. Cole, late a Representative from the State of Maryland, twelve thousand five hundred copies each, of which three thousand copies of each shall be for the use of the Senate and nine thousand five hundred each for the use of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 2. That there be also printed, of the eulogies delivered in Congress upon the late Austin F. Pike, a Senator from New Hampshire, twelve thousand copies, of which four thousand copies shall be for the use of the Senate and eight thousand copies for the use of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 3. That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, directed to have printed portraits of the said Abraham Dowdney, John Arnot, jr., Lewis Beach, William T. Price, William H. Cole, and Austin F. Pike to accompany said eulogies, and for the purpose of engraving and printing said portraits the sum of three thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Approved, March 3, 1887.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

OF THE

DEATH OF WILLIAM T. PRICE.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

December 6, 1886.

Mr. CASWELL. Mr. Speaker, it is my melancholy duty to announce to this House the death of my friend and colleague, Hon. WILLIAM T. PRICE, late a Representative of the Eighth district of the State of Wisconsin, which occurred this morning at 5 o'clock, at his residence in that State. I shall, on some future day, ask the House to fix a time when fitting and proper words may be spoken in reference to his life and character. For the present I offer the resolutions which I send to the desk. And if a committee should be appointed to attend his funeral, I ask that I may be excused from service on the same, as it is quite impossible for me to attend.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the House has learned with deep regret the announcement of the death of Hon. William T. Price, a Representative of the State of Wisconsin.

Resolved by the House of Representatives (*the Senate concurring*), That a special committee of seven members of the House of Representatives and three members of the Senate be appointed to take order for attending his funeral at his residence in the State of Wisconsin, and the necessary expenses attending the execution of this order shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House communicate the foregoing resolutions to the Senate.

Resolved, That as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER. In order that the Chair may have the opportunity to announce the committee the question will be put, first, on the adoption of the first three resolutions.

The first three resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

The SPEAKER. The Chair announces the following as the committee on the part of the House: Mr. GUENTHER, of Wisconsin; Mr. MORRILL, of Kansas; Mr. FREDERICK, of Iowa; Mr. TAULBEE, of Kentucky; Mr. OSBORNE, of Pennsylvania; Mr. HUDD, of Wisconsin; Mr. LA FOLLETTE, of Wisconsin.

The final resolution was then agreed to; and, in accordance therewith, the House adjourned.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
February 9, 1887.

The SPEAKER. The hour of 3 o'clock having arrived, the Clerk will read the order heretofore made.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That Wednesday, February 9, 1887, at 3 o'clock p, m., be assigned for the consideration of resolutions relative to the late William T. Price, late a Representative from the State of Wisconsin.

Mr. CASWELL. Mr. Speaker, I offer the resolutions which I send to the desk.

The resolutions were read, as follows:

Resolved, That the business of this House be suspended, that appropriate honors may be paid to the memory of Hon. William T. Price, late a Representative in Congress from the State of Wisconsin.

Resolved, That in the death of Mr. Price the country has sustained the loss of a patriotic citizen and a most faithful public servant.

Resolved, That, as a mark of respect to his memory, the House, at the conclusion of these ceremonies, shall adjourn.

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Address of Mr. CASWELL, of Wisconsin.

Mr. SPEAKER: While it is a sad occasion that now occupies the attention of the House, it is always a pleasure to speak of the life and character of a just man.

WILLIAM T. PRICE, late a member of the House from the Eighth Congressional district of the State of Wisconsin, departed this life on Monday, the 6th day of December, 1886, at his home in the State he had so faithfully represented upon this floor. While this sad event had been foreseen for some weeks by his family and friends, no one expected it at so early a day. But we shall not doubt that when the summons came he was prepared for the great journey before him. It was characteristic of him to be ready for whatever emergency awaited him. He had been for many years in public life a servant of the people, passing much time in the discharge of duties away from home and his own business affairs, yet it was his good fortune when the end came to be under his own roof, surrounded by family and friends, so near and dear to him.

The faithful wife, son, and daughter, for whom he had lived an honorable and industrious life, were with him to administer to every want and extend to him that sympathy which one's own alone can give.

The deceased was born in Pennsylvania on the 17th day of June, 1824, and was consequently at the time of his death 63 years of age.

In 1845 he emigrated from his native State to Wisconsin, taking up his residence at Black River Falls, where he continuously resided till his death.

During his whole life he was an active business man, being principally engaged in lumbering and farming.

But his usefulness was not confined to these pursuits. Many other branches of business gained his attention. He did not profess to be learned in the law, but he had a clear comprehension of constitutional government, and this enabled him to serve his people and fill with honor and distinction whatever position they saw fit to assign him.

He was elected four times to the senate of his State, and on one occasion he was chosen president of that body. He was also twice elected to the lower branch of the legislature.

He was also for a while judge of the probate court, a court which administered most important and sacred trusts.

He was also collector of internal revenue, filling with great credit that most responsible position under the Federal Government. Finally, he was chosen a member of the Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth, and Fiftieth Congresses, increasing his majority at each election; the last exceeding that ever enjoyed by any member from the State of Wisconsin.

During his entire public life, extending through every position, State or Federal, which he held, I venture to say not a blot or stain can be found upon his record which would tarnish his efficient and most honorable service. Every page of that record, every act of his official hand, will bear the closest scrutiny.

As a business man he had few equals. He was an organizer and a projector. He planned and executed in a way that redounded not only to his own profit but to the advantage of his associates as well.

The laboring classes about him found at his hands a share in whatever he enjoyed.

He also enjoyed the confidence of the business men, and for many years was president of the principal bank in his town.

He had a positive nature, as all who have met him will testify. Whatever he believed he believed with all his might, and he had the courage to avow his convictions, as well as the ability to assert them; and yet he was a just man, taking censure himself when deserved as freely as he gave it when occasion required. Those who knew him in public or private life understood him to conceal nothing or take shelter. He struck boldly at the object of his attack. To accomplish his purpose he was wanting neither in zeal nor industry. His true character is well revealed in a paragraph which I take from a speech made by him while a member of the State senate in 1879, just before taking a seat in this House. On that occasion he said:

> I did what I could to lift the fallen, the erring, and the weak, and place him on the platform of an independent manhood; that I never stood back for fear of party or shrouded my own convictions in doubt and uncertainty and gloom for fear of hurting a political party. I have an ambition to do my duty as a senator, to do all I can to help every poor, weak, erring brother that needs my help, and to fight every graceless, Godless, soulless scoundrel who would leap to personal aggrandizement upon the fallen fortunes and the wrecked lives of his fellows.

He was a great believer in the cause of temperance, and it may justly be said he was its leader in his State.

He possessed that faculty and good sense which enabled him to eliminate it from politics in his district, so far at least as he was concerned. In that way he brought to the cause no enemies or opposition, and it grew in strength till his district contained a greater number of temperance people than any other district in the State.

As a member of the House little need be said. The daily record speaks for him, and speaks better than any words of mine can express. Few measures of public interest failed to receive his attention.

He was a ready debater, and lost no opportunity to express his approval of or dissent from those measures when under consideration. His satire was often felt, if not enjoyed, by those in conflict with him, while his plain expression and great sincerity of purpose always won for him admiration if not approval.

He was an economist, guarding closely the interests of the people, and he did not hesitate, at all times, to condemn any unnecessary use of the public moneys.

In his death the soldier has lost a faithful friend—one who labored constantly to reward them for their patriotic services.

We shall miss him upon this floor; he will be missed by the people of his State; but he has left us here a legacy of good examples, his people at home the record of a pure and upright life, and a service while their Representative that does them honor.

His many deeds of charity and kindness among his neighbors and friends will be remembered and cherished by all who knew him, and we trust that he is now serving in a sphere far better than the one he has left behind him.

Address of Mr. THOMAS, of Wisconsin.

Mr. SPEAKER: Again we are called upon to halt in our legislative duties to chronicle death's resistless power and remorseless will.

WILLIAM THOMPSON PRICE, a member of this House from the eighth district of the State of Wisconsin, died at his home in Black River Falls on the 6th day of last December. This sad event was a great shock and surprise to the people of Wisconsin and to the members of this House.

It is indeed difficult to understand that this strong man, of iron will, who has been a familiar figure and a great power in his own State for forty years, and who during his terms of service in this House showed such vitality and mental vigor, is no more.

It is among the good impulses of our human nature, cognizant of its own weakness and tenderly forgetful of the faults of those who have passed away, to unduly laud the memory of the dead; but, sir, I have the profound satisfaction of knowing that in recalling the incidents of the life of my deceased friend and colleague there is nothing in his career that needs the embellishment of flattery.

Those who knew him best will bear me out in the statement that in simple fidelity to fact and as honest an interpretation of the character and motives of the man as he himself could have made lies his best representation. No one more abhorred praises unfit—no one less needs them—and few could with more safety trust the memory of a long and public life to the scrutiny of mankind.

It is true, sir, that he was a man ambitious in the extreme of place and distinction. Such ambition, however, was not inspired by mere desire of personal elevation. He sought place for the work he could do in it. It might be said that his ambition was animated by an intense conviction that places of high trust afforded him opportunity of working out his own ideas of right and justice.

To such work he bent all the energies of a brilliant mind, an indomitable will, and a tireless purpose.

Often at variance with his friends and his party on important measures, so entirely honest was he in his convictions that more than an ordinary consideration was meted out to him; and still, so uncompromising was he in assertion of those convictions that I think it may be said of him that he

made thereby the only enemies he ever had, for in his fearless advocacy of them he was oftentimes regardless whether his methods were gentle or rude, what antagonisms he created along the way, what foes he made, what friends he won or lost, anxious and intent alone upon the success of the principle for which he contended, the work he desired to accomplish, working faithfully even under disadvantages and great discouragements.

> As one who knows where there is a task to do,
> Man's honest will must Heaven's good grace command.

If obliged to sum up his chief traits in a few words, I should say that he was distinguished as self-reliant, self-asserting, and aggressive; qualities softened, however, by great good sense, and tempered by a desire to be just; that he was independent of thought and prompt of action; that he had great decision of character and an utter disregard of all those arts employed by the demagogue; that he was honest in his convictions and fearless in their assertion. He was a man of versatility, in that he could readily adapt himself to whatever circumstances surrounded him. As an illustration, he was entirely at home in the logger's camp in the pine woods of Northern Wisconsin, and was equally so in the drawing-rooms of the wealthy, and amidst the elegancies of polite society. He could turn from the perplexities of a large business to the social amenities of friendship and affection without effort. He could be "hail fellow well met," hearty and unassuming, or stand upon the rostrum an eloquent and persuasive orator. It is not wonderful that such a man should be found popular in public and political life. He was a natural leader of men, and was early pushed forward to the head of the column.

In 1851 he was elected as a Democrat to the assembly of the State of Wisconsin, but upon the formation of the Re-

publican party in 1854 he united with that organization, with which he remained as an ardent worker during the rest of his life.

He was a member of the Wisconsin State senate in 1857, 1870, '71, '78, '80, and '81. In 1882 he was again a member of the assembly. He also held many local offices in his own county, including that of county judge. He was Presidential elector in 1868; he was elected to the Forty-eighth and also to the Forty-ninth Congress, and was re-elected to the Fiftieth Congress by a greatly increased majority, amounting to about 12,500. A splendid triumph; and one the more a compliment from the sad fact that it was won without his leadership, or through any personal effort of his; won by the devotion and work of his people, while he himself lay upon his bed fighting for only a few days more of life—Death his closest comrade.

This grand triumph was, sir, not only due to the great personal regard and appreciation in which he was held as a man by his neighbors, but was in a great measure due to the acceptable manner in which he had performed his duties here.

During his entire service in this House he sought by his watchful care to guard not only the interests of those he immediately represented, but the interests as well of the whole country.

No gentleman on this floor was more careful of, or attentive to, or more conscientious in the performance of his duties than he. He was ready at all times to give his views upon public questions, which he did with that force, terseness, and logic charming to listen to, and which brought the subject under discussion and his views thereon clearly before the House.

In debate his utterance was remarkably rapid. He was

probably the most rapid speaker in the House. His voice was most often heard here in behalf of the soldier, for he was pre-eminently the friend and the advocate of the rights of the soldier.

There are no people on the face of the earth so devoted and self-sacrificing as the people of America. No government has been so liberal toward its defenders, or has exhibited so much gratitude for devotion and sacrifice as ours. This sentiment was illustrated in all its highest bearings in the conduct and action of Mr. PRICE upon this floor. His patirotism, his gratitude, his noble pity prompted him to incessant and earnest work in behalf of the soldier; his voice was heard on all possible occasions in favor of liberal appropriations for the benefit of those brave men who stood in the ranks in defense of their country, and his vote was always given, accompanied by most earnest and eloquent appeals, in behalf of liberal pensions for the widows and orphans of those who had laid down their lives that the country might live.

The rights of the private soldier and those who by the death of the private soldier had been left to the care of the nation, he was the friend, the champion, the protector. Many a soldier suffering from wounds received or disease contracted in the service of his country, and many a poor widow and helpless orphan whose husband and father fell upon the battle-field, have reason to bless his memory for the efforts he made in their behalf; and when he died none were more sincere mourners than they. It would scarcely be just to his record, or the memory held of him among the people of his own district, and indeed the entire State, not to mention the fact that he was a firm and unyielding advocate of temperance.

A contest into which he entered when the question was

new as a governmental problem in his State, and in which he was a pioneer, and to which he brought the whole force of his character—advocating the doctrine of total abstinence and legislative prohibition, uncompromisingly and in the face of stern opposition, in utterance oftentimes bitter as it was fearless—never appearing to realize or care whether his extreme course might not prove disastrous to political ambition. To an ordinary man, under conditions then existing, it might have proved fatal, but so fully did the people know the honesty of his convictions that they were willing to follow in his lead, and twice was he honored by the nomination to Congress of the Prohibition as well as the Republican party.

Mr. Speaker, I have endeavored in this brief delineation of some of the most prominent characteristics of my departed friend and colleague, to show that in them was the active motive power of his life and acts, and that his character in mature life, as in early days, the direction of his purpose, and the secret of his large influence in his State, were the result of the development of these marked, and in some respects peculiar, traits. He was neither marred nor made by circumstances; if he did not create circumstances, he bent them to his will and use, and was always greater than they.

This, to the older residents of Wisconsin, stands proven fact; it was true of him in his early pioneer life; true of him in his successful business position; true of him in his political progress, and true of him in days of declining health, and when the severance of all human ties was made. Everywhere and always he was the self-contained, strong-willed, brave man; not an imitator, but simply himself.

The State of Wisconsin knew him well, believed in him, and delighted to honor him with its highest trusts.

The affection with which she will forever remember him is evidence of his loyal guardianship of those trusts, and his associates of this House will not go from the tribute and ceremony of this hour to soon forget the honor and worth of WILLIAM THOMPSON PRICE.

We pass softly and with reverent tread from contemplation of the character and life of the man of busy habits and public activity to that of the husband and father, within the sacred circle of home life and love. We stand with bowed head and face averted in the presence of grief and anguish, too profound and comfortless for even the tenderest human sympathy to relieve, the broadest philosophy to support; but upon which the sweet and gentle suggestions of Christian faith fall with healing grace.

Coming years may bring to the lonely hearts there some surcease of sorrow, but no compensation for an irreparable loss. They may come laden with this world's comforts and brightened by the hope of future reunion, but between the dark and dawn there lies a wearisome stretch of time, and hearts bereft know best how grievous is the watch.

Out of that home and the light that dwelt there our friend has passed on to know another life and learn the lesson of immortal being. Let us leave him, then, in the presence of that great Mystery, before which we too shall stand some not far distant day, remembering—

> * * there is a hope that all men have,
> Some mercy for their faults, a grassy place
> To rest in, and a flower-strewn gentle grave;
> Another hope which purifies our race,
> That when that fearful bourne forever past
> They may find rest—and rest so long to last.

Address of Mr. PETTIBONE, of Tennessee.

Mr. SPEAKER: Once more the House of Representatives pauses for a brief space to mark its respect for the character of one, so recently among us in the full vigor of his powers, now, alas, too soon consigned to the long sleep and to the narrow house! That all men must sooner or later pay the debt of nature, that Death, with equal certainty, knocks his imperative summons at the gate of prince as well as peasant, is a part of the common knowledge of us all. And yet the unexpected departures of some men shock us! And especially is this so when a strong, virile, manly man, one full to overflowing with decision of character, with intense individuality, and the courage of his convictions, like a warrior laying aside his armor forever, passes into the unbroken silence of the unknown!

It is not mere eulogy to say that WILLIAM T. PRICE was such a man, nor that to us, who so frequently shared his counsels and knew his buoyant, hopeful spirit, his death comes with a peculiar shock.

I would not, if I could, indulge in overpraise, or say aught of the dead which is unbecoming, because untrue. What I knew of our friend I learned from seeing him on this floor, and from hearing him in this forum. To those who knew him at his home, who are familiar with his life work in Wisconsin, who were long his associates and shared his labors before he came, the Representative of his district, to Washington, I leave the duty of portraying the aspirations, the struggles, and the triumphs of his earlier years.

When he came here a member of the Forty-eighth Congress we soon learned that a strong personality had come among us. It was from the first seen that he was no novice

in legislative work. He was a man, it was evident, who had opinions of his own, because he had seen, and read, and wrought, and thought. It did not take long to prove that he had a will of his own, and that he respected the convictions of others, because he intensely believed in those which to him appeared to be true. His salient traits of character as they revealed themselves to me, from daily contact, as the months wore on, were energy and force of character, as evidenced by his tireless industry, and his close and discriminating attention to all that was done and to most of what was said upon this floor. He was an attentive listener to the debates, and when he addressed the House we knew he always had something to say; and he always said it with the directness and with something of the force of a cannon-ball.

His honesty of purpose was transparent and evident to us all. He was all through an ardent American. He had faith in hard work, in education, and in total abstinence. That he despised shams of every kind he demonstrated alike in public debate and in private conversation. He was urbane and gentle, yet he was firm and positive.

His conscientious and high sense of duty shone out as clearly as the light of day. His wit sparkled alike in repartee and anecdote.

He was a believer in the rights of man as man, but he was no leveler or communist. He had acquired a competency for himself and an honorable place among his fellowmen by persistent hard work and perfect sobriety, running through many years. He served his constituents and served his country well and faithfully.

To me he was a noble specimen of the men of brain and brawn who, forty years ago, found the great Northwest an almost unbroken wilderness, and have since transformed it

into an empire; and who have planted and built up those American, Christian Commonwealths, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska! Surely, a great work in the world! A work which will stand, for it was wrought out in justice and in wisdom, and it has secured forever, let us trust, the liberty, the security, the prosperity, and the happiness of millions now living and of the millions yet to be.

In this great work WILLIAM T. PRICE had no common place and no common share. As a farmer who transformed wild acres into fruitful fields, as a lumberman who led his axmen into the wilderness and gave employment to hundreds while he hewed out a competency for himself and family, as a judge of his county where he guarded the rights of the widow and the orphan, as a banker whose integrity was never questioned, as a member of both branches of the Wisconsin legislature in various intervals of service running through thirty years, as a Presidential elector, as a three times elected Representative of his district in Congress we see his life was a most active and honorable one. It was full of stirring incident, of manifold labors, and he has left his work and impress upon his time.

Our friend, we know, "was rich in saving common sense.

What were his private opinions touching man's relations to his Maker I can not undertake to declare, for here, at least, he was reticent on topics of the kind. I judge only from his daily walk and conversation. We saw that all his ends were true. A kinder heart, it seemed to me, never beat. He was clean, he was honest, he was just, he was morally pure.

> No further seek his merits to disclose,
> Nor draw his frailties from their dread abode,
> There they alike in conscious trust repose,
> The bosom of his Father and his God.

Honored shade of our late companion, hail! and farewell!

Address of Mr. HUDD, of Wisconsin.

Mr. SPEAKER: The second session of the Forty-ninth Congress convened under the law of our land December 6, 1886. Under a higher law, a supreme decree that intervened, that has so often intervened in the affairs of life and death in this Congress, our fellow-member for that Congressional session, my colleague in this Hall from the eighth Congressional district in the State of Wisconsin, the able, the fearless, the honest, the genial man, WILLIAM T. PRICE, on that same day so set apart for our reassembling, in the early morning hour thereof, was summoned hence.

The previous question of fate had been successful in his case; there was no division of that motion, no tellers allowed, no objection to prevail, for the regular order of our common mortality had been reached for Representative PRICE; his bill of life passed and gone to that great majority that have crossed over the river of being and doing herein—earth—messaged to the congress of a hereafter in the republic of the blest.

Our colleague was of that material that he may be said to have had all the human valor and Christian audacity that would rank him with the worthy militant of whom it was said:

> The Knight's bones are dust,
> And his good sword rust;
> His soul is with the saints, I trust.

WILLIAM T. PRICE was born in Huntingdon County, State of Pennsylvania, June, 1824, and had nearly reached the age of sixty-four years at the time of his death; that death occurred at his home in Black River Falls, Jackson County, State of Wisconsin, on Monday morning, December 6, 1886.

Mr. PRICE came to Wisconsin in the year 1845. For more than forty years he had been a respected, worthy, and honored citizen of Wisconsin while it was both Territory and State. Wisconsin became one of the United States soon after he came within its borders, having passed from a Territorial state in the year 1848. In 1851 WILLIAM T. PRICE made his first appearance in a legislative body, and at the age of twenty-seven he occupied a seat in the Wisconsin State legislature as a member of the assembly thereof; and although one of the youngest and presumably least experienced members thereof, at once took rank in that body with men far his senior in years, and whose experience in other legislative halls would seem to have entitled them to high places and distinguished records.

Once again, in after years, Mr. PRICE filled a seat in Wisconsin's legislative assembly, namely, in 1882—then in the full maturity of his powers intellectually, and when he was then, as often before, a pillar of strength for his party and a legislator for the people who sent him there, and also for the general masses, not being bound merely by his district's lines, always in that State legislature without peers that could overshadow him. A member of the State senate of Wisconsin during the years 1857, 1870–'71, 1878–'79, 1880, and 1881, the pleasant recollections of some portion of that senatorial career still lingers, must remain while memory holds a seat in the brain of him who now attempts this poor eulogy of his colleague, then and there in the capital city of Wisconsin my more than friend and associate always, and never more so than when that friendship and official association was transferred for both to meet here as colleagues in this capital city of the United States.

The deceased Representative filled the office of county judge of Jackson County, State of Wisconsin, in a court

having probate jurisdiction, in 1853–'54. He was undersheriff of his county in 1855, and an honest collector of internal revenues in 1863–'65. Chosen a member of the Forty-eighth Congress, he first came to the House of Representatives in December, 1883, and at once was recognized and made himself known and felt as a man of affairs and capacity. Re-elected to the Forty-ninth Congress, Representative PRICE was, during all the first part of the session thereof, distinguished on the floor as an active and persevering member, with his eye single and voice alert for what he thought the just and the best in legislation. On a return to his constituents, and in answer to a third candidacy for Congress, he was at the November election of 1886 again chosen for Representative in and to the Fiftieth Congress from the eighth Congressional district of the State of Wisconsin by a majority of more than twelve thousand of his admiring fellow-citizens voting on that question.

In the exercise of a reasonable economy, strict honesty, and faithful pursuit of his business, that of a lumberman in the State of Wisconsin, the handling and dealing in pine lands and pine logs, the manufacture and sale of same when rendered into the lumber of commerce, made WILLIAM T. PRICE a wealthy man; so that, unlike too many of our public men and elected servants of the people who die in office poor, save in honor and reverential memory, he was able to leave a fair fortune for his devoted wife and the mother of his also well-provided-for son and daughter—that son who is treading so close in his father's footsteps that we are pleased to have it to say now and here to the promising son who succeeds so illustrious a sire in the self-same legislative body that mourns its dead, we welcome thee for thine own as well as for thy noble father's sake.

WILLIAM T. PRICE was not a scholarly man, nor even of letters, if to be entitled and so to rank he must have passed the curriculum of the academy or been able to boast of his degree in arts and science from the universities of the land. His early education was that of the common school, and scant-taught hours at that; still, in the years of a busy, bustling, business life, in the woods, along the rushing rivers where he helped run the pine-tree trunks to the marts or mills, on the frontier almost, and for some while after he came West, of an approaching and soon to become enduring civilization that developed those wilds of a Territory into the fair rose, expectancy, beauty, and strength of a great State in our Union, he managed to acquire—the how and when is a mystery now to us all—the intelligence, the learning, the breadth and depth of all subjects that enter into the life of men who assume to control and seek to direct affairs for their fellow-men.

Thus did he become, and he was, the intellectual equal of any man who appeared on the stage when they were called for action, and into which arena he leaped full-capped, as it were, and most completely draped in stature and in mind, already the more than peer of any he in all the land that met him. The wit and power of repartee possessed by WILLIAM T. PRICE will long be remembered here by those of us who so often enjoyed its exercise. His had the true Attic flavor about it, while it went straight to the mark, was pungent and exhaustive. It seldom left a sting behind, gross or sensitive as may have been the called-for retort or point inflicted. As an orator and public speaker Mr. PRICE was *sui generis;* his the very Niagara of vowels and consonants that fell from his lips ofttimes in the wild rush and torrent of invective, argument, pathos, and humor; so that, as we have seen here in this Hall, as I have had occasion ofttimes

to notice elsewhere, the not usually bewildered short-hand reporters throw their phonography to the winds, and thus say in effect, if not in these words, "Let it run; we can't catch PRICE'S words on the fly." Yet those words, the logic and his conclusions, were nearly always apt and worthy of being received as

In Barnedino's leaves of gold.

It may be asked what, then, was the power in and with this man, so nurtured, so dowered with some if not many imperfections so common to our humanity—what was and is the secret of his success in life? For he was essentially a successful man, if wealth, honor, troops of friends, and all of that can be said to make a man a successful one. It was this; let it be now the open secret of Representative PRICE'S whole life and successful career; let it be known and accepted by all, especially by the young and rising generation of men who would feign press on in his footsteps, to find a like success, or further yet than fate and time allowed the deceased to rise: Know all men, then, that it was the willingness and the ability to always avow and follow his own convictions on any subject or duty. In the better rendition of this truth he came to understand, believe, and declare—

To thine own self be true;
And it must follow, as the night the day,
Thou canst not then be false to any man.

Our late colleague was most true to his own convictions of duty, justice, and the eternal right. Not that he was always right, always logical even, or consistent with the fitness of times and things. Not so, far from it; some of us must say, to be loyal to our own convictions or logical with history and our conceptions of a better political economy, we think he went astray often. Still, it does not lower or change

the argument that he so believed, so held was the truth—hence expedient; and so advocated and stood by it, though all the world arose in arms to combat him. He was the hero of his own and in his own royal claim of right. These sterling traits in our late colleague were well illustrated in more than one direction and in varied fields of life—legislation, as well as in all his many and successful business pursuits; so that it became a common saying among the rough lumber boys in the Northwest lumber region, where he met and mingled with them in business affairs, "BILL PRICE and a square deal;" as significant as the maxim that his whole business life well illustrated, "Honesty is the best policy."

I must crave indulgence in this in memoriam to relate, or allude to, one or more incidents, showing that great quality of the dead. In the State that sent him here, as also in many other sections of the Union, has grown a new party, whose fundamental idea is prohibition as to the manufacture and sale of ardent spirits, wine, and beer. Mr. PRICE became a convert to this idea of prohibition, and that by legal enactment and through constitutional provision thereon. As he often related in my hearing, and as is well known to Wisconsiners as a matter of fact, there was a period when the life of the deceased was clouded and almost overshadowed by the immoderate use of intoxicants; but, rising in his might and manhood, he choked a bad habit into a stingless memory, but still carried the recollection of his own near approach to the drunkard's fate in a bitter, unrelenting hate of all alcoholic beverages, forgetting that, in his one personal lapse, he might not be like others who could taste and not perish. This, however, was only one phase of that same trait of which we are now speaking, his conviction and belief carried into practice; it was not, politically, a wise or expedient move for him to make, for his party and his

friends were not at that hour in favor of enacting prohibition; still, in the face of that almost apparent speedy end of his own ambition to still continue an elected leader of men, he spoke and acted prohibition on every stump in his district and in every legislative hall that admitted him. I call to my mind a most notable retort of my late friend in this relation:

In discussing this prohibition question in the legislature of our State it was my lot to be nearly always opposed to the gentleman from Jackson, as Mr. PRICE was most always hailed, that being the county in the State of Wisconsin in which he resided, though it was in opposition to my own attempt at argument, and the wit of it directed against my own party, it is, nevertheless, too good to let pass away without its record. As the orator was in the height of his output, the rapid flow of his three or more words to the second—all will now mentally recall that wonderful flow of sounds—a German member of the same legislative body that Mr. Price was then addressing arose to ask, if not to confuse, the temperance orator, far from being temperate in his choice of words and invective of the beer-makers and the beer-drinkers: "Will my friend from Jackson answer me one question, as he talks so much about the habits of the Germans and what they shall eat and drink? Does my honorable friend know the difference between sauerkraut and whisky on their systems?" "Yes," quicker than lightning thundered the speaker, "yes, sir. One is for Dutch Democrats to eat if they like it, and the other to kill them whether or no."

So, too, in the year 1879 the Republican party was, as I remember it—and Mr. PRICE was nothing if not a partisan on most questions advocated by his party—committed to the immediate resumption of specie payments. Mr. PRICE did

not so hold or believe at that period of time, and in the face of caucus, party spur, and hope of reward or fear of defeat he voted against specie resumption on the resolution relating thereto in the State senate of Wisconsin.

So again, in this body that he entered December, 1883, and was a Representative here until his death, as before narrated; our deceased brother on more than one occasion fully put himself in antagonism with his party rather than surrender what he honestly conceived was the right of the matter.

Solitary and alone, if I may use the now famous expression of Missouri's great Benton, did WILLIAM T. PRICE in this Hall record his vote against pensioning the widow of General Grant, admiring Grant as I know he did, from numerous expressions that fell from his lips, as the great soldier of our late war. Yet his convictions of duty said to him, "Stay your hand here;" and the "no" that he dared to make audible on that occasion may be regretted by his friends, not sanctioned by the nation that can afford to be just to its heroes and liberally magnanimous to their descendants and dependents; still we may not stain his memory for the act that may not seem patriotic to some, it was no doubt to him as filial and dutiful as though it was his own mother's cause he declared his convictions of the duty of a public servant dealing with the trust funds of the nation.

He has gone beyond your censure, if censure you may have to give; gone beyond our praise, and all will find it now a pleasure to remember him only as the kind, the genial, the sharp, clear-voiced, but full-hearted man, who was our colleague in the Forty-ninth Congress from the State of Wisconsin. *Requiescat in pace*, WILLIAM T. PRICE.

Address of Mr. HENDERSON, of Iowa.

Mr. SPEAKER: The fact that WILLIAM T. PRICE, after leaving his native State, first made his home in the State of Iowa; the fact that his brother, Hon. Hiram Price, long an honored member of this body, is a citizen of my State; the fact that the name of "Bill Price" is almost like a household word throughout the West, and especially in the States of Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa; the fact that I knew him personally and intimately, and loved him well, according to my knowledge of him, all make me swift to embrace the opportunity to offer a few words to his memory on this sad occasion.

To judge accurately and justly of the deceased we must look at his start in life and at his surroundings. There are many men in public life who are aided by kind and powerful hands. Many men get seats in this Chamber who have been helped to their places by potent friends. Many men have enjoyed the advantages of colleges, and of tutors, and of wealth from the time they entered upon the investigations of life. None of these facts were true of the deceased.

WILLIAM T. PRICE was of good solid Pennsylvania stock. He was born to very little of the good things of life, for in those early days farmers did not have a great deal in the way of luxury, but had to fight bravely even for the necessities of life.

All the education, scholastic, that he had, he gained by a few short terms in the common schools. Yet he was an educated man when we saw him here.

I must differ from his generous, eloquent, and kind colleague [Mr. Hudd] when he says "there is a mystery as to how he got his education." I can tell you how it came to

him. It came like the sunlight from Heaven. He was a man with a mind ever thirsting for knowledge, and with a heart always swift to respond to the sufferings of humanity. In the great college which gives the clashing conflict of ideas he found a teacher. His teacher was the brawny hand and the bronze face. His teacher was the mountain and the stream. His teacher was the face of poverty, and also the well-fed, the well-clothed, and the prosperous citizen. It was the widow's sigh and the orphan's tear. And he listened to his teachers, one and all. He had the grasp of mind to comprehend what they said and what they meant.

Mark you, at eighteen he was one of the best debaters in Huntington County, and a noted temperance lecturer, sent for all round the adjoining country to talk on the temperance question. His lectures were by precept and by example and wholly without cant and sham. Hence his great influence.

And the debating club was the place he loved to be in long before he reached eighteen. I have talked with him about it and we agreed. He admitted that the debating club, so much neglected in these latter times, made more public men, more great lawyers, than ever were made in colleges. It was a little debating school in which was forged the sharp blade of the Edinburgh Review. It was there that Jeffrey and his confrères drew their inspiration and there they first laid the foundation of their gigantic power and mighty influence.

So the nation can thank the debating club for the inspiring power of speech and the acumen of WILLIAM T. PRICE. He is my authority for saying so.

He landed first in the West from a steamboat at the little town of Fort Madison, Iowa. Marching up the levee he met, by pure accident, a friend of mine, now living in my city, Mr. Henry S. Hetherington, who had known him well

in Pennsylvania. According to Mr. PRICE'S statement, he did not have a dollar in his pocket when he touched Iowa. Yet he came up smiling, rich in the confidence of youth, in the confidence of integrity and of manhood. He knew he was entitled to fair, equal destiny in life, and he was prepared to fight his way to it like a man. He landed in Fort Madison, Iowa, and stayed ten days with Mr. Hetherington. He proposed opening a law office. He found there more lawyers in that little town than he had left in a much larger place. He said, "Henry, I am going to shake the dirt of this town off my feet and push for some point where there's more law business and fewer lawyers."

At once he started for Mount Pleasant, Iowa, many miles west of Fort Madison. He had 25 cents in his pocket. He did not go on horseback. Nobody offered him a ride. He scorned the stage-coach; he went on foot and alone, and opened a law office at Mount Pleasant, Iowa. As he told me, "it did not pan out well," and in a few weeks or months he came back and took a steamboat up the Mississippi River.

Mr. Hetherington said, "Where are you going, Bill?" His reply was, "I don't know where I am going; up the river somewhere; I will stop at some place and try it on." When he reached Black River Falls, Wis., all he had with which to commence the battle of life in the wilds of that State was an ax upon his shoulder. No; not all. He had for a stock in trade, with which Heaven had richly endowed him, the will to work and the ability to execute.

Right here let me call the attention of his old colleagues, Mr. Speaker—though many of these points have been noted—to some of the pursuits that Mr. PRICE followed. As I said, he was born upon a farm and followed farming for years when a boy, and he did so after becoming rich; he worked on a canal; he was a clerk in a store; he practiced law; he

cut logs; he was a teamster; he cooked one winter for a logging camp; he ran a stage line; he was a preacher once; operated saw-mills, and was a merchant.

A MEMBER. I did not know that he had been a preacher.

Mr. HENDERSON. You did not know he was a preacher. He was once. I had it from himself and corroborated by others. I will tell you of that once, for it points the character of the man and the greatness of his soul. Once a stranger came into the pinery in which his business was being carried on, and was there trying to make a living. He suddenly disappeared, and as he had not been observing the injunctions of Mr. PRICE very strictly for a few days—I mean with reference to the temperance question—he, the deceased, became alarmed, lest he had been drinking too much and was drowned. No one was disposed to look for him. The boys said, "Oh, well, let 'im go; he'll turn up, and if he's drowned why he's drowned, and there's an end of it." Mr. PRICE said, "No, lads; we'll look him up, for he is a stranger and a poor man." He sent out skirmishers all around the vicinity, and went himself. They hunted for a long time, but could not find the body. At last towards evening some one reported that the body was found away down the river. Some of the boys suggested that they would draw cuts to see which should go and bury him. Mr. PRICE was there and said: "No; not much. We will all go down. This fellow is entitled to a square deal." These were his exact words. He adapted himself to his audience, and he never failed to carry his audience and carry his point, for he was a born leader of men. They went and found the body, and the boys got a box, put him in it, dug a hole in the ground by the banks of the river, lowered the box, and one fellow grabbed his spade and was about to throw in the dirt. "Hold on," said Mr. PRICE; "not yet. This man is a stranger; he has not a relative or

friend near, perhaps not one on earth. I propose to speak a few words at his grave before we cover him up." He took off his hat, and the rough men working with him in the pineries uncovered their heads, and he then and there preached a sermon beside the running waters, under the lofty pines, that a Whitefield or any of the most eloquent divines might well have envied in language suited to his audience, inspired by the surroundings and he dedicated to God the place and the clay that was without a friend lying in their midst. When he finished every eye was paying tribute to the eloquent, feeling words of this preacher from the heart.

My friend from Tennessee [Mr. PETTIBONE] did not know about his religion. He said that Mr. PRICE "was reticent on this point." Away with your doubts about Mr. PRICE'S religion. That man, whose life was godlike; that man who was near his God in season and out of season, by being near sorrow, suffering, and distress, be it in rude speech or rude ways, trust him with his God when he is called. His religion was all right. It was the religion that the Christ exampled and that PRICE followed wherever the moans of the sufferer appealed for help.

Now, Mr. Speaker, as to the offices of trust that he held. I am measuring the man according to his opportunities—don't forget this. Nothing can be said here that can soften the sorrows of his relatives and friends; nothing that can be said here will add to the renown of the State that gave him birth or sent him to this Hall. I seek the humble lot of the historian, and aim only to do justice to him. Note how he was trusted. He was a long time at the head of his town council; chairman of the county board of supervisors for a long time. He was president of the Black River Improvement Company; president of his county agricultural society; he was deputy sheriff, county judge, county treas-

urer, collector of internal revenue, president of a bank, president of a railroad company, two terms a member of the general assembly of the State, State senator, president of his State senate, Presidential elector in 1868 on the Republican ticket, and three times elected to Congress. How many men in this nation, starting in life in a little cabin in Pennsylvania years ago, can build such a pyramid as WILLIAM T. PRICE built? What a beautiful life! How strong he was! The great, honest, earnest, happy, pushing man of the people is an example for us all. He is a text for youth. Splendid type of a western pioneer!

What, Mr. Speaker, was his general character? Broad, deep, natural, and truthful, and rising, like the lofty trees among which he spent his life, toward the heavens. Some say he was a wit. I knew much of him and loved to be with him. I never thought he was a wit. I can say that he was a humorist; and I may say, too, that no one who lived since Abraham Lincoln died so strongly resembled him. He was full of stories—stories that set his listeners in a roar of laughter. He loved stories for the fun that was in them, for nothing else, for a pure, clean heart was in his breast.

Wit he did use, but only in self-defense. Humor broke from him as the waters bubble from our western springs, always refreshing and delighting those who came in contact with him.

Yes, that has been claimed. Not an orator according to any of the laws of rhetoric, but he had the oratory of mailed truth, of honesty, of conviction. He said what he believed and he said it like a man and in any presence. He was a good deal as Roderick Dhu was as described by Sir Walter Scott, and who when accused of having murdered a person in the presence of the king, said:

> And heard'st thou why he drew his blade?

And then, after depicting the insult he had received, said:

> He rights such wrong where it is given,
> If it were in the court of Heaven.

So with WILLIAM T. PRICE. He met insult or injury as they deserved to be met and upon the instant of their delivery. I loved the man for the perpendicular character which he possessed, a character which made him, it might be, a lion now and an infant a moment later. It was a beautiful character. Kind!

My heart warmed last night to the just and generous tributes paid to the memory of Mr. JOHN ARNOT, of New York. Here was another Arnot. Generosity was the controlling law of his nature. Not for show. Not for comment. Not for man's eye. When the war broke out he was heavily in debt, having met failure as a merchant in partnership with another. His creditors were suffering, and it was so that he could not himself go into the Army without leaving debts and dishonor behind him. For ten years he toiled and paid off every dollar of the debt, his own and his partner's, with 10 per cent. interest.

During that time his wagon carried flour, pork, vegetables, delicacies for miles around wherever there was a Wisconsin home that had sent out a soldier to protect the country's flag leaving a woman and little children behind. He owned stage lines during the war. He discharged a man once for allowing a soldier to pay for his meals while going over his stage line. The boys home on furloughs with their arms in slings or on sick furlough always had their meals paid for and rode free on his stage lines. He never paid for one that had gold stripes on his pantaloons or wore shoulder straps. He seemed early in the war to conceive a sort of dislike for the shoulder-strap fellows, and that feeling followed him into this body. I understood that and made

allowance for it on some occasions when I thought he erred and when I differed from him. But the common soldier could not get a dollar of his money into WILLIAM T. PRICE'S pocket for riding on his stage lines, and he paid no money for his meals as he went over miles and miles in his coaches.

I have not touched half of the points that I had outlined in my mind, but I have consumed double the time I should on such an occasion. I must close my remarks. But let me say this one word in closing: Not one member of the Congresses of which WILLIAM T. PRICE was a member has photographed himself on so many hearts as did WILLIAM T. PRICE. His monument is written in the hearts of the poor; and on the statutes of the land are monuments that should quicken the ambition of every American citizen. The great secret of his power as a public man lay in his friendship for labor, for the poor, and in keeping close to the great, warm, pulsating heart of the masses of the people.

Address of Mr. BRECKINRIDGE, of Kentucky.

Mr. SPEAKER: In this fitting ceremonial of personal and official respect to the memory of a dead colleague, this pause in the transaction in the public business, we bring into prominence the truth that beneath our partisanship and broader than our differences is our recognition of the worth of true manhood and the kinship we hold to our fellow-citizen. In our hearts we feel that striving for a common end—the public good—and working for the same result—the glory of a beloved country—are those who bear the commission of the people, though the differences of view may be great and the collision of opposing beliefs bitter.

It is not at the grave only that we give utterance to this;

in the social intercourse which makes many hours pleasant, and in the mutual confidence founded on esteem we attest this pleasant truth. But in scenes like this we make formal and public avowal in the presence of the nation that Democrat and Republican, from whatever section coming, are citizens of a common country, freemen loving liberty, men struggling for lofty ends, and this we avow by the side of an open grave and in the august presence of the dead. To such ends was this colleague devoted; in his own peculiar way, according to the light given to him, in harmony with his training, his past life and his environments, with the power of his will and the force of his nature—these were his objects here; and whether we agree or disagree with the views he uttered or the mode he adopted, we reverently lay on his grave the wreath of our respect and appreciation, recalling with a grave and chastened pleasure all that was admirable in his life and agreeable in his association.

Mr. PRICE was a typical product of our country and times. Active, restless, keen-witted, earnest, self-contained, he had early found a new home in a Western State, and assisted in building that State. While he was a man of marked individuality and decided traits, free from the slightest flavor of imitation, he was yet a typical East-Western man, a man born in an Eastern State, but early transplanted to the West, and giving evidence of his Western life and work.

We are, Mr. Speaker, a nation of emigrants, springing from an ancestry of exiles. We are colonists—not adventurers. We build homes and found States. For years this House has had in its membership men whose fate it had been to lay the foundation of States and be fortunate enough to see their work prosper in their hands. This is the peculiarity of our English-speaking race, and this the work we Americans are specially called to do.

Our ancestors began this work on the coast of the Atlantic. Their sons pushed into the interior, their grandsons climbed the Appalachian range and turned their faces to the setting sun, and so the advancing emigration crossed the Mississippi, conquered the continent to the shores of the Pacific, and found no cessation in the work of State building. Farmers as well as lawyers, mechanics and preachers, the sons of toil and the alumni of universities, on terms of absolute equality, accomplished the marvelous labors which have made us a nation of thirty-eight States. In such labors men broaden, grow, develop. He who has to conquer the forest to open his own land, who has to construct his own government to secure protection for life and liberty—he who creates a new home with free institutions, with all that is implied in such a phrase, unconsciously educates himself to high pursuits and lofty aims. In our generation has been added the indescribable training of a great war.

And so from the new States in that great, imperial Western land, whose hand is outstretched for the scepter of power, and whose fast increasing communities will demand a large share of dominion, Representatives have come, educated amidst such labors and developed in such scenes. Not always trained in the learning of the schools, nor familiar with the traditions of the past, but trained in a successful battle with life, conscious of their power to think and act for themselves, and clear in the object they desire to accomplish and as to the means necessary to secure the desired result, they have greatly influenced the legislation of the past twenty years; ever potent in the settlement of the questions the country has had to consider, and their power will constantly increase.

As the questions growing out of the war pass away and

new issues arise this fast-growing West will become more potential, will modify our national policy with its views, if it does not, indeed, mold it to its purposes. This is not the time nor fit occasion to forecast what will be the extentof this influence, nor the modifying power of the great and growing South who sees before it a brighter and ampler day. It is only my purpose to emphasize what were the elements and characteristics of our dead colleague that impressed me in our short service together. He represented that West; he shared in its hopes as he had participated in its triumphs.

Entering Congress a stranger to him, rarely agreeing with the views he uttered, widely differing with him on all the great questions of the day, as well as in our past opinions, our personal intercourse never became more than the pleasant interchange of salutations and friendly colloquies. But I soon recognized his power and I thought I saw the causes of it, and fell into the habit of listening to him when he spoke and meditating on the reasons which induced his course. He was a valuable Representative; watchful, alert, resourceful, somewhat inconoclastic, not overly reverent, always incisive and ever hitting hard, he caused investigation, provoked attention, excited debate, sometimes exposed shams and tore off coverings, and thus prevented careless, if not improper, legislation. In such a body as this such a legislator is often a most useful and always an interesting member; and I doubt not I voice the sentiment of the whole House that he has been missed this session—his absence appreciably felt.

As to the private and personal qualities and ties of Mr. PRICE, I have nought to add to what has been said by those who knew him better than I, and who speak from a knowledge and affection to which I am a stranger.

It is the common lot of man to be born, to live, to die, to

be forgotten. Here and there, scattered very thinly along the pathway of the progress of our race, are a few immortal names, and of these few are only names; rare indeed are they who survive to posterity in the full stature of their real manhood. If this were all, life and toil and sacrifice would indeed be not worth the living and the pain; but this is the very least—the worker may be forgot, the work remains.

The work of our hands lives after us. In the sum of human happiness—in the aggregate of human achievement—in the total of human glory, our labor is counted, our toil forms part, our very tears glisten! This is the sublime truth which gives courage and feeds our love! Obscure though the labor be, the race we love is aided thereby; bitter the sacrifice, it is necessary to the glorious consummation.

In the Pacific the coral laid the foundation, and through the ages, by scarcely perceptible accretions, slowly built the base of islands, working into the imperishable column its own life and tomb, until countless lives and mausoleums pushed the ceaseless work above the restless bosom of the ocean. Then the birds of the air brought from distant lands various seed; the kindly sun gave them life through death, and, invincible to the storms of the sea, the island became beautiful to the eye, the air ladened with the fragrance of sweet flowers and melodious with the carols of birds.

Compared with the innumerable hosts of the sheeted dead of the past and the advancing armies of the future we are scarcely more than corals, and we build our lives and our tombs into the mighty edifice in process of erection by our race; assured that it will stand unmoved by all storms, crowned with the lustrous radiance of eternal sunshine and filled with choral songs of surpassing melody. But unlike the coral, it is not all of our lives that we thus build into these walls.

Looking beyond the grave I avow the profound conviction of the reality of that other and nobler life to which death is but the opening door. I summon the long and glorious procession of our predecessors in this House to bear testimony to this truth—soldiers, sages, statesmen, patriots, who gave your lives to your country and your race, whose spirits are this day so great a cloud of witnesses, attest the verity of the fortune which awaits us!

He who is the Father of all takes from us our two mites, and in the divine alchemy of His almighty love they become rich unto some good work. Standing by this grave I reverently bow my head in thankfulness that in the divine economy it is to the purity of will, the love of truth, the earnestness of faith—faith in our race, faith in our future, faith in all good, faith in him who is "the all good" that the true reward is given, not of applause and crowns and fame, but of an approving conscience and a fruitful life.

The resolutions were then adopted; and accordingly the House adjourned.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
December 7, 1886.

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Clark, its Clerk, announced the death of Hon. WILLIAM T. PRICE, late a Representative from the State of Wisconsin, and that the House had passed a concurrent resolution for the appointment of a special joint committee of seven members of the House of Representatives and three members of the Senate to take order for attending the funeral of Mr. PRICE at his home in the State of Wisconsin, and that Mr. GUENTHER, of Wisconsin; Mr. MORRILL, of Kansas; Mr. FREDERICK, of Iowa; Mr. TAULBEE, of Kentucky; Mr. OSBORNE, of Pennsylvania; Mr. HUDD, of Wisconsin, and Mr. LA FOLLETTE, of Wisconsin, had been appointed the committee on the part of the House.

Mr. SPOONER. I ask that the message from the House of Representatives announcing the death of Hon. WILLIAM T. PRICE, a member of that body from the State of Wisconsin, be laid before the Senate.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. The Chair lays before the Senate a message from the House of Representatives.

The Chief Clerk read as follows:

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *December* 6, 1886.

Resolved, That the House has learned with deep regret the announcement of the death of Hon. WILLIAM T. PRICE, a Representative of the State of Wisconsin.

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That a special joint committee of seven members of the House of Representatives and three members of the Senate be appointed to take order for attending his funeral, at his residence in the State of Wisconsin, and the necessary expenses attending the execution of this order shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Ordered, That Mr. GUENTHER, of Wisconsin; Mr. MORRILL, of Kansas; Mr. FREDERICK, of Iowa; Mr. TAULBEE, of Kentucky; Mr. OSBORNE, of Pennsylvania; Mr. HUDD, of Wisconsin, and Mr. LA FOLLETTE, of Wisconsin, be the said committee on the part of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate the foregoing resolutions to the Senate.

Mr. SPOONER. Mr. President, I submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with deep sensibility the announcement of the death of Hon. WILLIAM T. PRICE, late a Representative from the State of Wisconsin.

Resolved, That the Senate concur in the resolution of the House of Representatives providing for the appointment of a joint committee to take order for attending the funeral of the deceased, at his residence in the State of Wisconsin, and that the members of the committee on the part of the Senate be appointed by the President *pro tempore*.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives.

The resolutions were adopted unanimously.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. The Chair will name, in obedience to the resolutions, the following Senators to attend the funeral: Messrs. SPOONER, MANDERSON, and BLACKBURN.

FEBRUARY 10, 1887.

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Clark, its Clerk, announced that the House had passed resolutions commemorative of the life and services of Hon. WILLIAM T. PRICE, late a Representative in Congress from the State of Wisconsin.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

March 1, 1887.

Mr. SPOONER. Mr. President, I ask that the message of the House of Representatives touching the death of Hon. WILLIAM T. PRICE be laid before the Senate.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore* laid before the Senate the resolutions of the House of Representatives; which were read, as follows·

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

FEBRUARY 9, 1887.

Resolved, That the business of this House be suspended, that appropriate honors may be paid to the memory of Hon. WILLIAM T. PRICE, late a Representative in Congress from the State of Wisconsin.

Resolved, That in the death of Mr. PRICE the country has sustained the loss of a patriotic citizen and a most faithful public servant.

Resolved, That as a mark of respect to his memory the House, at the conclusion of these ceremonies, shall adjourn.

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

Mr. SPOONER. I submit resolutions which I ask may be read.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. The resolutions submitted by the Senator from Wisconsin will be read.

The resolutions were read, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate receives with deep sensibility the announcement of the death of Hon. WILLIAM T. PRICE, late a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Wisconsin, and tenders to the family and relatives of the deceased the assurance of its sympathy in their bereavement.

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to transmit to the family of Mr. PRICE a copy of the foregoing resolution.

Address of Mr. SPOONER, of Wisconsin.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Less than one-third of the term for which I was chosen to the Senate is gone, and already for the second time it is my duty to review in this presence the ended life of a colleague from my own State in the work of national legislation. Somehow I note from this standpoint, as never from any other, the quick, sad havoc which death is making around me.

> The air is full of farewells to the dying
> And mournings for the dead.

It is strange if there comes not to each one of us, unbidden and unwelcome, anxious, silent questioning as to who of our number is next to sink into the "sleep that no pain shall wake."

On the 6th of last December, the birthday of this session, before the dawn, at his home, in Black River Falls, Wis., his wife and children bending over him, in full possession of his faculties, conscious that his eye was never to greet the sunlight of another day, with a smile upon his face, WILLIAM THOMPSON PRICE, a member of the House of Representatives from the Eighth Congressional district, peacefully folded his tired hands and answered the summons of God.

He of whose career I am briefly to speak was no stranger to me. For seventeen years before his death we lived in the same Congressional district, were partisans in the same political cause, acquaintances, and friends. A truthful sketch of his life and a discriminating analysis of his character and career, without a single embellishing touch from the hand of friendship, shows him to the world for what he was—a remarkable man.

Mr. PRICE was born at Masseyburg, Huntington County, Pennsylvania, on the 17th day of June, 1824. The educational opportunities of his boyhood were limited to four or five terms of the district school, at which he received his education, except that which came to him in the rough school of life. For a time he worked on a farm, and later, for a year or two, he followed the towpath of a Pennsylvania canal. Then for three years he was a clerk in a store in the village of Hollidaysburg, Pa., and during this mercantile apprenticeship his leisure was devoted to reading law.

In the spring of 1845, rich in ambition, energy, and the other elements of true manhood, but, like so many thousands who preceded and who followed him from the populous East to the western land of hope, poor in every other way, he turned his face and steps westward, and landed at Mount Pleasant, in the Territory of Iowa, ill-clad and travel-stained, with only twenty-five cents in his pocket, and an ax, which he well knew how to use, upon his shoulder. In the autumn of the same year he went to Black River Falls, in the then Territory of Wisconsin, where among the stately waving pines he pitched his tent. From that day on he knew no other home.

From the time of his settlement in Wisconsin to his death he was an important factor, both in the public service and in the business life of the region in which he dwelt. In 1849 he was deputy sheriff of Crawford County, which then included what is now the county of Jackson. He was a member of the first law firm in 'the latter county, and in 1854 was elected the first judge of that county.

He was a member of the Legislative Assembly of the State in 1851 and in 1852, county treasurer in 1856 and 1857, collector of internal revenue from 1863 to 1865, Presidential elector on

the Republican ticket in 1868, member of the State senate 1857, 1870, 1871, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, and president of the senate in 1879; president of the agricultural society of his county for seven years, the first president of the Tomah and Lake Saint Croix Railway Company (afterwards the West Wisconsin Railway Company), president of the Jackson County bank from its organization until 1884, chairman of the town board of his town for eight years or more, and president of the village of Black River Falls. He was elected a member of the Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth, and Fiftieth Congresses, receiving at the last election, though helpless through the illness which resulted in his death and unable to take any part in the canvass, over 12,000 majority, a majority larger than any ever before cast for a Congressional candidate in that State.

For a few years prior to the commercial panic of 1857 he was a member of a firm engaged in the mercantile business. This firm went down in the panic, and all the accumulations which the toil and energy of years had brought to him were in a day swept away, leaving him, as he used to say, over $15,000 worse off than nothing; but, undaunted and undiscouraged, he set to work and in a few years had, single handed, redeemed, with interest, the part which bore the name of his firm. His business life thenceforward was successful and he amassed a comfortable fortune.

During the forty-one years of his life in Wisconsin he was extensively engaged in lumbering operations, and came to be one of the principal loggers in the State, cutting and floating to market during the last five years of his life an average of 60,000,000 feet of logs each year.

As has been seen, he was familiar, almost from the outset of his career in Wisconsin to the day of his death, with public duties of different grades, from the offices of the town and

village to that of Member of Congress, and I only assert what goes without saying in my State when I say that he brought to the discharge of every public duty tireless industry, patient and intelligent attention to detail, and unusual sagacity.

He had a peculiarly correct idea of the duties of citizenship. To him the Government, State and National, was not a far-away, fanciful thing in which the individual citizen had no direct interest. He realized that the nation is only an aggregation of individuals, and that under our system of government the ultimate success of the whole vitally depends upon the intelligence and fidelity with which such citizen discharges his duty, and therefore he attended, not as a ward politician or in any sense a political boss, but as a citizen, every primary and every meeting which took cognizance of public affairs.

He was married July 10, 1851, to Miss Julia Campbell, who was to him indeed a helpmeet, with whom his home life was exceptionally happy, and upon her face lovingly lingered his last look in life. His family consists of a daughter, just entering upon womanhood, and a son, Hon. HUGH H. PRICE (twenty-seven years of age), whom the electors of the district, partly as a loving tribute to the memory of the father, chose with flattering unanimity to serve out the latter's unexpired term.

There was no neutral tint in this man's character. He was in everything aggressive. He was a force in whatever he undertook. He was no laggard in any relation of life. In business there seemed to be no limit to his capacity or endurance. He managed with great sagacity, energy, and success many different branches of business at the same time, and on a large scale, any one of which would have overtaxed an ordinary man. He employed hundreds of men at a time, always paid them good wages, and demanded of them faithful service.

He despised a drone, and no man better appreciated manly qualities, under whatever guise, and so in the logging camp, and on the great "log-drives" among hundreds of rough men, he was a master, not by reason of his wealth, or because he was employer, but by force of his energy and ability, and because he himself had been a wage-worker among woodsmen. He was an exacting employer, but his men loved him, for he was generous and just to them; and on the wintry day of his burial, which brought prominent men in large numbers from the cities throughout the State to his desolate home, there came out from the lumber-camps, up in the pine woods, red-shirted, kind-hearted lumbermen, to take their part, with bowed heads and tear-blinded eyes, in the last sad rites at his grave.

Mr. PRICE was a restless man, impatient of restraint, intolerant of opposition, recognizing no obstacle as absolutely insurmountable. Intense, progressive, and a radical in everything, he rarely hesitated to express his opinion of men and things. He was strong in his friendships, bitter in his hatreds, always outspoken and blunt, sometimes harsh in his judgment of friends, sometimes unjust, doubtless, to opponents, but there was in him and in his life so much of generous impulse, of good neighborship, of sympathy for all who suffered, of honest, faithful public service, and of genuine love of country, that he was popular with the whole people of his State, and had troops of partisans and personal friends.

He was of nervous temperament, physically vigorous and quick of movement, and of exceedingly active and acute mind. With all the details of his great business operations pressing upon him he would attend a session of the legislature, never voting for an unnecessary adjournment, always at his post, mastering the details of legislation, investigating

with scrupulous care all bills proposing to take money from the public treasury, and contributing his full share and more to the debates of the session. Quick of thought and speech, he analyzed well, and possessed, too, in a rare degree the power of generalization. Such a man could not fail to be a formidable and dangerous antagonist in debate.

I do not remember to have known a more rapid speaker, either in the halls of legislation or on the stump. He was phenomenally quick at repartee, and excelled in vituperative eloquence, but he could be, when the fancy moved him, pathetic also, and I have heard many times from his lips, as a legislator, speeches eloquent and thrilling in words of denunciation and eloquent and thrilling also in words of tenderness and pathos. No man who knew him, or knew of him, will gainsay my statement that he was, taken all in all, a brilliant man.

During the years of my acquaintance with him he was a Republican, sturdy and steadfast in the essential principles of the party, but not always in strict accord with its policies. There were times when he differed from the party; and when he differed from it the party always knew it, and upon what ground he differed. He never concealed his views upon any subject, and though he was thought sometimes to have strayed from the party fold, none denied his right to sit in the party councils, for no one doubted his integrity.

He was a man of great physical courage, and of great moral courage. He would not tolerate an imposition or insult, and he was absolutely fearless of any man anywhere, and yet he was not immodest or without distrust of himself.

He was an attractive speaker to almost any audience. Men always listened to him when he spoke. He was not always right. Who is? He was always earnest, sincere,

bright, and original. He hated sham, and was always ready to attack it wherever he found it. He was an iconoclast. He had little reverence for tradition. With him no evil acquired immunity from attack by lapse of time, nor did age constitute a safe armor against his lance.

To the National Congress he brought excellent legislative training, a keen sense of fidelity to public trust, peculiar ability, and a high and reasonable ambition to excel. That he won his way and much impressed himself upon the body of which he was a member eminent associates, oblivious to party lines, warmly testify. He was a substantial factor in Congressional legislation, not simply for the intelligent labor which he performed in committee, nor for the measures which he drafted, and the success of which he promoted, but also in debate.

He compelled attention, challenged investigation, and whether right or wrong in his premises and conclusion, made those around him think. Nothing escaped him. He was pitiless in exposing hypocrisy and denouncing what he deemed extravagance, whether it was in the appropriation of a million dollars to an unwise purpose or a trifling waste of public money in a Congressional funeral or junket. In the State Legislature, as in the higher field of legislation to which he was called, he was careful of the public money. In his view he had no right to be generous with it, as he might be with his own. He was a terror to the promoters of suspicious claims upon the Treasury, and deemed himself absolutely limited as a legislator, in the disbursement of the people's money, to objects and purposes going obviously and directly to the general public good. Sentiment went for little with him in justification of the expenditure of money from the Treasury, and so sometimes to some men he seemed parsimonious may be, but this was his philosophy as to the obligation of a public servant.

He was very tender of the honor of his city, of his county, of his State, and of the nation. If the people made a bad bargain, through legislation or otherwise, however unpopular it grew in time, WILLIAM T. PRICE would fight determinedly against its repudiation, and for its enforcement, not in letter simply, but in spirit also. Every man who knew him and his history in the State will recall, as I do, more than one instance in which he upheld what he deemed to be a moral obligation of the people, when it brought to him for the time nothing but obloquy, distrust, and abuse.

He was a strong advocate always and everywhere of the rights of women, and of every proposition in legislation which would release them from what he deemed the bondage of the common law and place within their easy reach facilities for education and independence more in harmony with the growing civilization of the world.

He was a devoted friend of the soldier, and a zealous advocate of liberal pensions to the soldier and the soldier's widow and orphan. This was with him little less than a passion. In his very soul he believed that to the valor and endurance of the grand army which marched to the defense of the Union the people, South as well as North, owed a debt which could never be discharged.

There was in his heart, too, a sense of individual obligation to the Union soldier for his home, his fortune, his future, and the happiness and prosperity of those whom he held dear. The faded, dust-stained, battle-torn uniform of the Federal soldier was to him brighter than the purple robes of royalty, and an honorable discharge from the Union Army was in his opinion the highest patent of nobility that could come to any man on earth; and so it was that he labored in season and out of season for the benefit

of the soldier, and "pension night" always found WILLIAM T. PRICE in his seat.

He had upon this subject, as upon all others, his own notions, and the RECORD shows him to have voted alone sometimes when it would have been much easier for him to have gone with the multitude. Whatever may be said of his positions, none but his enemies questioned his motives, and even they could not fail to admire his moral courage.

He was a public spirited and generous man. Public improvements found in him always a firm friend. When a charity was to be inaugurated the first man to head a subscription paper was Mr. PRICE; when a church debt, whatever the denomination, was to be lifted he put his shoulder under the load; when a public library was to be procured he was princely and prompt in his donation.

His secretary tells me that when at the end of the last session, weary and ill, he was going home to rest, he assisted him to reckon up his expenditures for the session, and Mr. PRICE found himself about $900 short and unaccounted for. Upon investigation he discovered that he had sent it in little sums from time to time during the session to soldiers and soldier's widows and orphans, whose pitiful letters had touched his heart, and who were waiting in distress for the day to come when the Pension Department should afford them relief.

The circle of his private benefactions was a large one. No one but he knew how large it was, for he gave in his own way, and in his own time, and published no bulletin of his charities. He was the good angel of many a poor man's home. When the specter of starvation stood at the threshold PRICE drove it away. When sickness came to a neighbor, and the shadow of death settled upon any one's home within his knowledge, he was there, in his own way, and it was not quite like any other man's way, to comfort and to help.

No reasonably complete sketch of Mr. PRICE'S life can be silent as to his attitude upon the question of temperance. In the early days of his Wisconsin life, and while yet his home was on the frontier, he sometimes joined the revels of the hardy and adventurous men by whom he was surrounded; but long, long years ago he turned with loathing from the wine-cup, and to the hour of his death was a strong, active, aggressive temperance orator and agitator, and so known throughout the State.

He was a firm believer in prohibition and strove earnestly and persistently to bring it about, but he always sought the accomplishment of this purpose within the ranks of his own political party. He considered the traffic in intoxicating drink an unmitigated curse, and was opposed to recognizing its legality by license laws or otherwise. He demanded its obliteration. In the lecture-room, on the stump, in the Legislature, in the Halls of Congress, everywhere, he never failed to denounce it with all the power and eloquence and sarcasm which he possessed, and he everywhere pleaded with powerful pathos for all the good which temperance brings and which drunkenness destroys.

He had bitterness of heart and speech for those, whether men or women, who tempted, anywhere on the earth, a brother to put the chalice to his lips; but, Mr. President, he had even womanly tenderness and pity, and a patience almost more than human for him who was held in thralldom by the habit of drink. To such he was patient, watchful, helpful. No matter how often they stumbled and fell, his hand was outstretched to them, and many such an one encouraged, aided, and strengthened by him, was led

> **To build a new life on a ruined life,**
> **To make the future fairer than the past,**
> **And make the past appear a troubled dream.**

In the region where he lived, and lies buried, many a child has been and will be taught to look upon his pictured face as that of the friend whose sympathy and substantial help led the husband and father of that household out from the blackness of night into the soft, sweet light of a happy home.

Mr. PRICE was very near to the popular heart in Wisconsin, and his name and fame will be always bright among her treasures. His most exacting friend can wish for him no better epitaph than the true story of what he did and was, and no nobler monument than that which he himself did build.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. The question is on the adoption of the resolutions.

The resolutions were agreed to unanimously.

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